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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

24 JANUARY 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) San Diego – Suspected Alien Smuggler Assaults Agents

(U) San Diego Sector Border Patrol officials say an alleged human smuggler assaulted two agents following a vehicle pursuit. Agents found four Mexican nationals who were allegedly smuggled by the driver, a US citizen. San Diego Sector agents patrolling on Interstate 8 near Campo, California, on Wednesday attempted to stop a 2007 white Ford F-350 pickup truck. The driver initially pulled his truck to the side of the road but fled when agents began giving verbal commands. The driver fled at a high rate of speed, according to a statement by San Diego Sector Border Patrol officials.

SOURCE: 23 January 2020, [Times of San Diego](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Illinois – Second Case of Wuhan Coronavirus Confirmed in US

(U) Chicago – The US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Friday confirmed a second US case of the new coronavirus from China in a Chicago woman, and said as many as 63 potential cases were being investigated as the sometimes deadly illness continues to spread around the globe. Of the 63 people under investigation from 22 states, 11 have so far tested negative, CDC said. The newly discovered virus has killed 26 people and infected more than 800. Most of the cases and all of the deaths so far have been in China, where officials have imposed severe restrictions on travel and public gatherings.

SOURCE: 24 January 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) New Hampshire – White Supremacist Arrested By FBI

(U) Keene – A white nationalist who was present at the deadly 2017 rally in Charlottesville, VA, was arrested Thursday by the FBI in New Hampshire, according to authorities. Christopher Cantwell of Keene, NH, was “safely taken into custody after being indicted by a federal grand jury and charged with extortion, and sending interstate threats,” according to the FBI. The alleged incident happened in June 2019 when Cantwell threatened someone online. He was trying to solicit personal information from the individual, according to authorities.

SOURCE: 23 January 2020, [Lowell Sun](#)

(U) New York – Militant Sentenced To 19-Years for Role in Benghazi Attacks

(U) New York City – A federal judge on Thursday sentenced a Libyan militant to more than 19-years in prison for his role in the 2012 Benghazi attacks that killed four Americans, including the US ambassador. A jury convicted Mustafa al-Imam in 2019 of conspiring to support the extremist militia that launched the fiery assaults on the US compounds, but deadlocked on 15 other counts. Al-Imam was sentenced to a total of 236-months behind bars.

SOURCE: 23 January 2020, [New York Times](#)

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(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – One Civilian Killed, Six Others Injured In Grenade Attack**

(U) Faryab Province – One civilian was killed and six others were injured after a few militants attacked a medical store with grenade in Dawlatabad district of the northern Faryab province. The militants threw a grenade to a medical store in Dawlatabad district on Wednesday evening, killing the owner of the store and wounding six others, the official said. Police had arrested one person in this regard and the arrested man admitted to his affiliation with the Taliban.

SOURCE: 22 January 2020, [Xinhua](#)

(U) Mali – Improvised Explosive Device Detonates Near

(U) Timbuktu – At approximately 0800 local time, two French soldiers were injured when an improvised explosive device (IED) detonated as they were driving their supply truck along a route 6-miles east of Timbuktu. The French soldiers belonged to the Barkhane operation tasked with opposing Islamist forces in the region. Authorities evacuated the soldiers by helicopter; the two will be repatriated to France.

SOURCE: 22 January 2020, [France 24](#)

(U) Mexico – Security Forces Corral Migrants After Hundreds Enter from Guatemala

(U) Frontera Hidalgo – Dozens of Mexican security forces corralled a caravan of Central Americans who entered from Guatemala on Thursday, testing Mexico's resolve to contain mass movements of people under pressure from the Trump administration. Armed with riot shields, a wall of National Guards blocked the path of the migrants and began moving them onto buses after hundreds had earlier in the day swept into Mexico across the Suchiate River that divides the country from Guatemala. Television footage showed at least two large buses filled with migrants moving out the near the town of Frontera Hidalgo. It was not immediately clear where the buses were going.

SOURCE: 22 January 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Syria – Jihadist assault 'kills dozens of soldiers'

(U) Idlib Province – Up to 40 Syrian soldiers have been killed in an assault by hundreds of militants in north-western Syria, according to Russia's defense ministry. The ministry, which supports Syria's government, said there were several attacks in which the militants seized two settlements in Idlib province. Syrian state media said members of a jihadist alliance had set off car bombs and used heavy fire as they targeted positions in the Maarat al-Numan area. But they did not mention casualties. A Syrian military source was cited as saying army units were redeployed to the area and eventually repelled the attacks "with high efficiency".

SOURCE: 22 January 2020, [BBC](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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